



Rising Stars
Reading Planet

My Nature Activity Book

Catriona Clarke



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Reading Planet Notes

In this book

Your child may need help with these words:

nature	middle
hedgehog	sugar
pieces	mixture
head	distance
pebbles	sprinkle
fruit	spread
ice-lolly	

Say them out loud together before you start reading.

Reading tip

After reading a book, ask your child if they can spot any similarities between this and other books they have read.

Would they like to read more books on this topic? Encourage them to explain why or why not.

Before reading

Look at the book cover and the back cover text together. Ask your child: *What does the word 'Nature' make you think of? Have you used an activity book before?*

While reading

- ★ After reading page 12, ask your child to tell you in their own words why bees may need feeding.
- ★ Look together at the features of this information book which make it different from a story book. Point out headings, labels and instructions.
- ★ Check that your child has understood the meaning of the words they have read. Can they tell you what *lurking*, *nesting* and *sprinkle* mean?
- ★ Encourage your child to think about what they already know about this topic. Ask: *Have you ever left food outside for an animal? Have you ever looked for minibeasts?*

After reading, encourage your child to talk about what they have read. You'll find ideas for questions and activities at the back of this book.

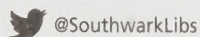




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Written by Catriona Clarke

Illustrated by Marek Jagucki

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On a nature walk

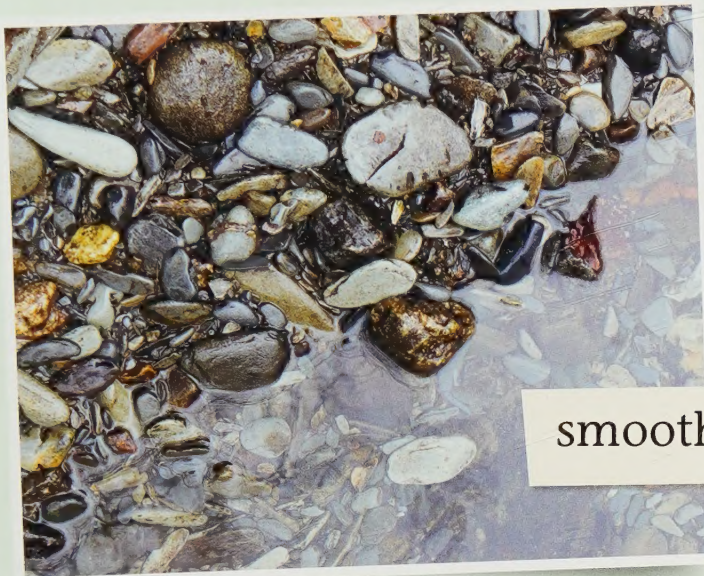
Let's go for a nature walk.

Are there minibeasts lurking under the logs?

Are there birds nesting in the trees?



What can we do with these materials that we found on the ground?



smooth stones

pine cones

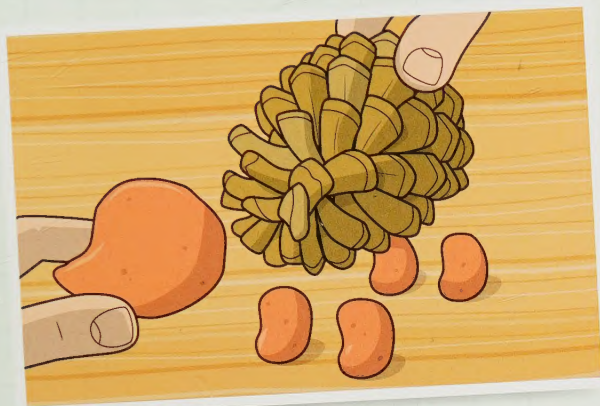


Pine cone hedgehogs

Pine cones come from pine trees. Some of the seeds inside the cones will grow into new pine trees one day.

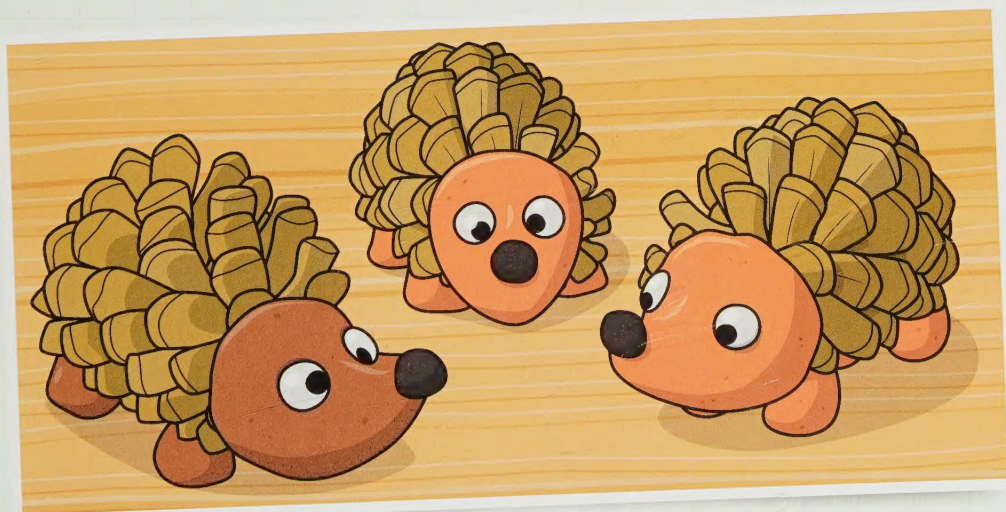


Make a hedgehog using a pine cone and some soft clay.



1 Use four pieces of soft clay for the legs and one for the head.

2 Add googly eyes and a clay nose.



Pebble art

Smooth stones called pebbles come from the beach or near rivers.



- 1 Paint pebbles or flat stones to look like bees or ladybirds ... or anything you like!



- 2 When the pebble is dry, cover it with clear varnish to stop the paint chipping.

Tree rubbings

Leaves grow on trees. Some trees grow fruit and blossom too.

leaves

fruit

plum tree



blossom tree

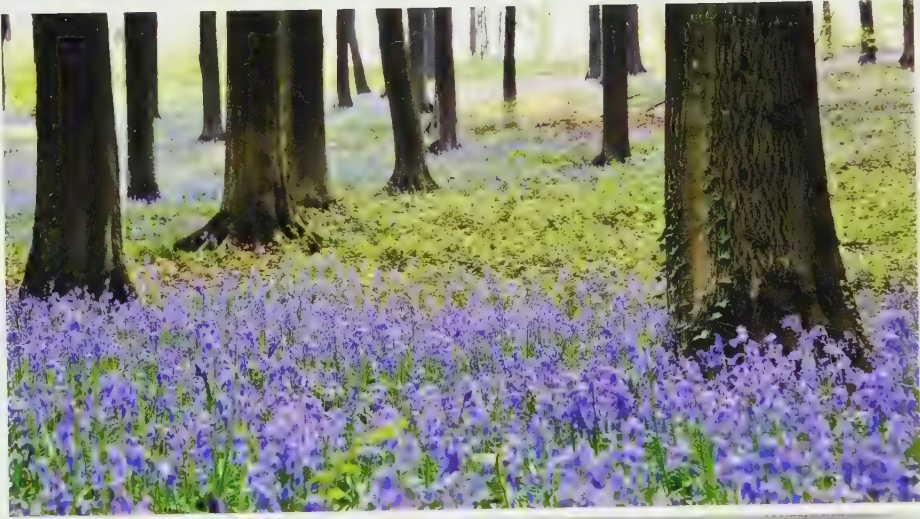
- 1 Hold a piece of paper against the trunk of a tree.



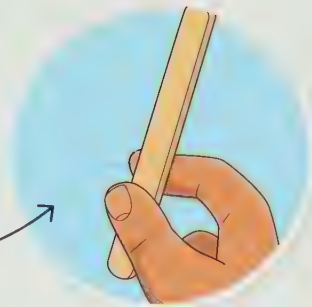
- 2 Use a crayon or oil pastel to make a rubbing.

Flower bookmarks

Around the world, flowers bloom in spring and summer.



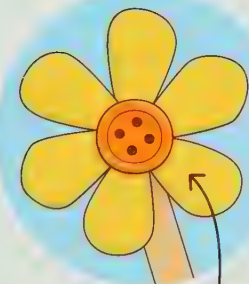
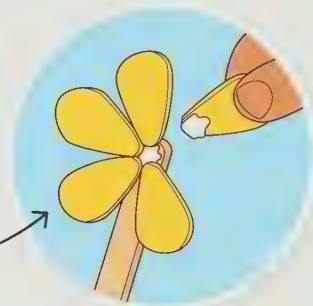
1 Use an ice-lolly stick to make the stem of your flower bookmark.



2 Cut out shapes from paper or felt for the petals.



3 Glue them onto the stem.



4 Use a button for the middle of your flower.

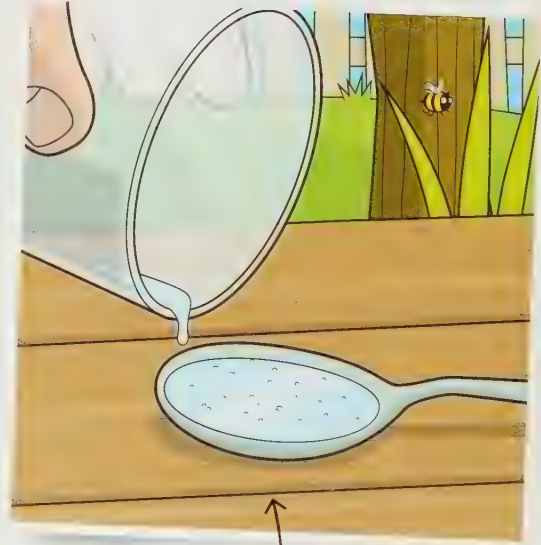


Save the bees

Sometimes bees get tired, but you can help by feeding them.



- 1 Mix two spoonfuls of sugar with one spoonful of water.



- 2 Put the mixture on a spoon or a small plate outside.





- 3 Watch from indoors or a safe distance to see if the bee takes a drink.

Cress eggheads



1 Start with an empty eggshell.

2 Wash out the shell and leave it to dry.

3 Put the shell into an eggcup and draw a funny face on it!



- 4 Place some damp cotton wool inside the shell.



- 5 Sprinkle one teaspoon of cress seeds on top.



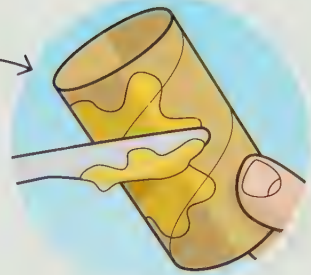
- 6 Leave the shell on a sunny windowsill for a week.
Watch it grow!

Bird snacks

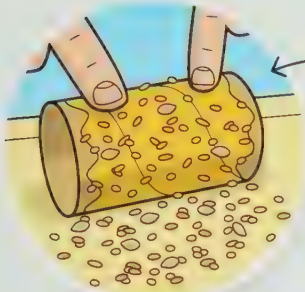
In winter, hungry birds need extra food.



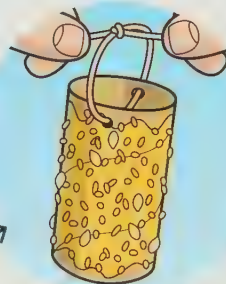
- 1 Spread honey on the outside of a cardboard tube.



- 2 Roll the sticky cardboard tube in a tray of bird seed.



- 3 Make a loop from string at the top of the feeder.



- 4 Hang your bird feeder outside from a small branch or twig.



Leaf spotting

To tell which tree is which, look at its leaves.



holly

willow

rowan

How many of these trees can you spot on your next nature walk?



Talk about the book

Answer the questions:

- 1 Where do pine cones come from?
- 2 Where are pebbles usually found?
- 3 Why do you need to use an empty eggshell for the cress egghead activity?
- 4 Why do the bee and bird feeders have to be placed outside?
- 5 Which craft project from the book is your favourite and why?
- 6 What might you find on a nature walk close to your home?



AFTER READING

Try these activities with your child:

- ★ Make a nature collage using fallen leaves. Can you make a bird, a hedgehog or a tree picture with them?
- ★ Draw or paint a picture of your favourite outdoors place to visit. What can you see there? What can you do there?

Reading tip

If your child expresses an interest in a particular topic, build on their enthusiasm by finding out more about it together. Your child may enjoy reading magazines and websites as well as books.

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Author: Catriona Clarke
Series Editor: Sasha Morton
Publisher: Helen Parker
Development Editor: Becca Law
Illustrator: Marek Jaguski
Academic Consultant: Professor Clare Wood, Coventry University
Educational Consultants: Madeleine Barnes and Dawn Robertson
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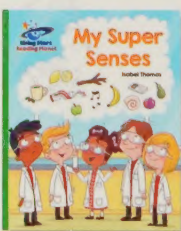
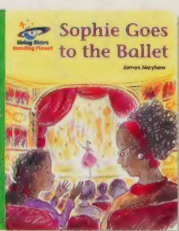
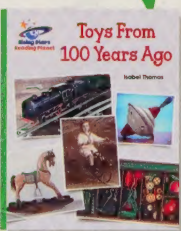
Reading Planet
Level 5



My Nature Activity Book

All kinds of things can be used in arts and crafts projects. Let's look for some materials from nature.

More books
in the series



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